IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: G. Gundling, et al.

Group Art No.: 1655

Examiner: B. Sisson

PATENT RULLO

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Serial No.: 09/492,213

Filed: January 27, 2000

Title: METHOD OF PROCESSING A

SAMPLE CONTAINING AT LEAST ONE BIOLOGICAL

ELEMENT

Case No.: 6416.US.P1

REQUEST FOR TELEPHONIC EXAMINER INTERVIEW

CPA

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicants request a Telephonic Examiner Interview with applicants' undersigned representative, prior to further substantive examination of the subject application.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience to schedule a mutually convenient time for the interview. Alternatively, Applicants' representative will telephone the Examiner to schedule an interview after the Office has confirmed receipt of the attached papers.

Dated: April 30, 2001

ABBOTT LABORATORIES D-0377/AP6D-2 100 Abbott Park Road Abbott Park, IL 60064-6050 Telephone: (847) 937-8272

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937-7022

Respectfully submitted, G. Gundling, et al.

David J. Schodin

Registration No. 41,294 Attorney for Applicants